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Viewing cable 08STOCKHOLM571, TFGG001: DEMARCHE DELIVERED--SWEDEN CONDEMNS

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08STOCKHOLM571**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08STOCKHOLM571	2008-08-15 11:05	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Stockholm

Appears in these articles:

http://rusrep.ru/article/2010/11/29/wikileaks_docs_02/

VZCZCXRO1633
OO RUEHAG RUEHROV
DE RUEHSM #0571/01 2281105
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 151105Z AUG 08
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3681
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0589
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS BE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 STOCKHOLM 000571

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/15/2018
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [GG](#) [RU](#) [SW](#)
SUBJECT: TFGG001: DEMARCHE DELIVERED--SWEDEN CONDEMNS
RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE INTO GEORGIA

REF: STATE 87254

Classified By: CDA ROBERT SILVERMAN FOR REASONS 1.4 (B & D)

¶1. (C) Summary: A senior Swedish MFA official told poloff the EU is divided into two camps and the French have watered-down the GAERC conclusion. Unless the situation in Georgia worsens, the EU is unlikely to offer a stronger statement until after Sept. 6, when the foreign ministers will meet informally. Sweden wants international peacekeepers and observers to replace the Russian "peacekeepers" and will press the EU to send a mission. Current thinking is to use Sweden's chairmanship of the Council of Europe (until Nov. 2008) to mobilize support to kick Russia out of the Council of Europe. End summary.

Scuttlebutt on the Cease Fire Agreement

¶2. (C) On August 14, poloff delivered reftel demarche to Johan Frisell (strictly protect), Head of the Eastern European Section of the MFA. He is one of the MFA's main interlocutors in the Georgia-Russia conflict and attended the GAERC on August 12. According to Frisell, Sarkozy's 16-hour trip to Moscow and Georgia was a carefully orchestrated routine that resulted in the "Sarkozy Show." Although the cease-fire agreement was not ready after the 16 hours, France wanted a success story and prematurely announced such. The result was a flawed document with which many EU countries have taken issue.

¶3. (C) Frisell said the French Chairman did not want to include the second paragraph of the first Council Conclusion that mentions sovereignty and territorial integrity. Sarkozy likely agreed in Moscow to exclude this language, said Frisell. Also, principle five of the agreement can be read to give Russia the right to take military action, "implement additional security measures," in Georgia for an undetermined amount of time. Certain EU states, including Sweden, Frisell said, scrambled to insert a modifying paragraph that included "the international mechanism should be set up rapidly." As it currently is written, the international mechanism is poorly defined.

EU Split

¶4. (C) Frisell said there are two camps in the EU. One camp's overriding priority is to stop the suffering and ensure the cease fire is respected, that it is too early to judge or blame and the EU cannot appear biased. Members include Malta, Cyprus, France, Germany, Ireland and the Netherlands. The other camp says Georgia made mistakes, but the overriding concern is that Russia launched a full-scale invasion of a sovereign nation in violation of international commitments. Without a strong statement against Russian action, Russia gains legitimacy for its actions. Members include England, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, the Baltic states, Slovenia, Slovakia and Bulgaria.

¶5. (SBU) Frisell said unless the situation worsens, the EU is unlikely to come out with another declaration until after Sept. 6, when the EU foreign ministers will meet informally in Avignon to discuss EU-Russia relations. This meeting will assess the consequences of Russia's actions and discuss possible reactions; no decision will be made on the EU's response at this time.

Swedish support for Peacekeepers and Observers

¶6. (SBU) Frisell said peacekeeping was not discussed on the 13th. Sweden supports international observers and peacekeepers, but they must operate in all of Abkhazia and South Ossetia and replace Russian "peacekeepers." Sweden is adamant that some must come from organizations in which Russia does not have a veto, such as the EU. Sweden has received indications that Russia is willing to increase OSCE observers from 8 to 108. Military peacekeepers will be harder for Russia to accept, thus it is a good idea to start an international presence with civilian monitors or police. Sweden is looking into how to propose this to the EU.

Sweden's Next Steps

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17. (C) Sweden will state its position regardless of the EU's, said Frisell. Sweden, as Chair of the Council of Europe, will seek to solicit support from other Council of Europe members against Russia and in the next few months attempt to vote Russia out. This is still in early planning stages, but is a current goal of FM Bildt.

19. (U) Sweden's Advisory Council on Foreign Affairs, attended by the King, is convening on Aug. 18 to discuss the Georgia-Russia conflict. The Council only convenes when major Swedish policy decisions have been made to ensure that all political parties have the opportunity to voice their opinions. It is classified and does not make policy. It last convened in March of this year when Sweden publicly recognized Kosovo's independence.
SILVERMAN